

ABILENE REFLECTOR

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CURRENT COMMENT.

ALESSANDRO GAVAZZI, the famous Italian orator, revolutionist and evangelist, is dead, aged eighty years.

The dynamite cruiser, Vesuvius, at the third official trial recently, attained a speed of 21.64 knots an hour, an excess of 1.04 knots over the speed required by the contract.

A LANDSLIDE has occurred at Post-Ilippo, Italy, a mass of rock and earth five thousand cubic yards in extent falling upon the houses below, killing one man and several animals.

M. F. PEASE, of Des Moines, Iowa, claims to be the original inventor of the telephone. He claims to have made a working instrument as far back as 1872, when it was described in a book.

GENERAL LEW WALLACE, it is now said, desires to be made Minister to Rome, so that he may continue his researches for material for a historical novel of the Eternal City which he has in preparation.

PRINCE NICHOLAS, of Montenegro, has produced at the Opera House at Cetinje a drama of his own construction entitled "The Czarina of the Balkans." The plot and situations of the play were very exciting.

MR. DODD, the solicitor of the Standard Oil trust, says that trust will not be affected by Judge Barrett's recent decision in the sugar trust case, as his company is simply a union of stockholders and not of corporations.

FARMERS of Warren and Sussex Counties, New Jersey, were turning over their sowed fields—something unparalleled for the middle of January. The weather was so mild that trees were beginning to swell their buds.

LADY SHATESBURY, niece of the Marquis of Donegal, is the latest member of the English aristocracy to go into trade for the money there is in it. She has started a store at Bourne-mouth for the sale of farm and dairy produce, a portion of which comes from her own property.

THE entire Republican Congressional delegation from Ohio called upon Major McKinley at the Ebbitt House, Washington, the other evening and notified him that they would cordially and actively support his candidacy for the Speakership. The feeling was unanimous and enthusiastic. The delegation expressed great confidence in the Major's election.

THE United States inspectors, who have been investigating the burning of the steamer Kate Adams, have obtained evidence which satisfies them that forty-two persons were lost instead of fourteen, as first reported. It appears that eighteen children among the deck passengers and ten of the boat's crew perished in addition to the victims previously noted.

MAJOR WARNER, Commander-in-Chief of the G. A. R., recently applied to Senator Hale as chairman of the Committee on Census for a hearing on the question of statistics relating to the surviving veterans of the rebellion being embodied in the next census. The sentiment in support of the census was quite extensive and growing rapidly, and it was understood the committee was favorably inclined to the proposition.

It was not thought probable that the bill to create a Department of Agriculture could become a law in consequence of the sharp differences of opinion between the Senate and House as to the transfer of the Signal Service Bureau of the War Department to this proposed new department. There were some indications, however, that the House conferees would yield on this point, and if so the report would undoubtedly be agreed to by both houses.

EX-CONGRESSMAN C. R. SINGLETON, of Mississippi, died at his residence in Washington recently. He was a Presidential Elector on the Pierce and King ticket in 1852 and a Representative in the Thirty-third to Thirty-fifth Congresses, retiring in 1851 and becoming a Representative in the Confederate Congress from 1861 to 1865. Subsequently he was elected to the Forty-fourth, Forty-fifth, Forty-sixth, Forty-seventh, Forty-eighth and Forty-ninth Congresses of the United States. He was born in Kentucky.

LA NATURE publishes a suggestion from a correspondent who thinks that diagonal streets should be added to the right angled streets of American cities. In Philadelphia, for instance, he says, with 850,000 inhabitants, the extreme distances traveled would be reduced one and one-quarter miles. The passenger would gain 3,665 years in time, and save more than 8,000,000-horse power now used in roundabout tracks.

SIGNOR BLITZ, whose merry manners, clever conjuring and versatility in ventriloquism entertained the young and old a quarter of a century ago, is now at a Brooklyn hospital awaiting transfer to the asylum as a hopeless imbecile. He is a victim of paralytic dementia, and has, according to the statement of his wife, who accompanied him to the hospital, had fifteen paralytic strokes. The little man, whose smile was contagious and whose quaint foreign manners were especially delightful to the little ones, has had flashes of his former genius, but flashes only. Marie Van Zandt, the prima donna, is the grand-daughter of the signor, and was born in New York. Signor Blitz, when taken to the hospital, innocently offered to give an entertainment for the benefit of the institution.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Gleaned by Telegraph and Mail.

CONGRESS.

THE Senate on the 7th passed the bill to abolish circuit court powers in certain districts (applicable to the State of Arkansas and Indian Territory). When the resolution in regard to the Panama canal came up the Senate went into secret session for its consideration and so continued until 3:40 o'clock. The resolution was adopted by a vote of 49 to 3. [The resolution disapproves of any European Government having control of the construction or operation of the canal.] The whole day the House was consumed in a fruitless effort to secure a quorum and pass the resolution amending the law to prevent filibustering on the Oklahoma and Pacific Road bills, and adjourned without any action.

In the Senate on the 8th a bill was reported and passed that the failure to prepay postage on a letter shall not delay its prompt transmittal, with collection of postage on delivery. Senator Sherman introduced a bill amending the law as to time, place and manner of holding elections for Congressmen which was referred. The tariff bill was then considered until adjournment. In the House Mr. Reed called up the resolution amending rules so as to prevent filibustering, it being the fifth day of the deadlock. The previous question was ordered and a motion to reconsider brought out a lively contest, but it was finally adopted by 139 yeas to 117 nays, and the resolution was sent back to the committee with instructions to amend and report a contest the next day. The House adjourned.

The Senate on the 9th non-concurred in the House amendments to the Nicaragua Canal bill. The tariff bill was then taken up and its consideration occupied the time of the Senate until adjournment. In the House Mr. Weaver (Iowa), immediately after prayer, raised the point of order that the journal could not be read until it was apparent that the question was present. The Speaker sustained the point, and directed the clerk to call the roll. Filibustering continued until 3:30 p. m., when the House adjourned. [The object of Mr. Weaver's fight is to compel final action on the Oklahoma bill.]

In the Senate on the 10th a bill was reported for bridge across the Missouri river at Leavenworth. At 11:30 the tariff bill was taken up. An amendment offered by Senator Allison reducing the duty on pearls from 25 to 10 per cent was adopted. An amendment of Senator Vance increasing the duty on precious stones of all kinds, cut but not set, was rejected. The dutiable list in the bill was completed and while considering the free list the Senate adjourned. When the House met Mr. Weaver (Iowa) renewed his dilatory tactics and the deadlock continued until an adjournment was finally reached.

ONLY six Senators were present when the Senate was called to order on the 11th. When a quorum appeared the journal was read and the tariff bill immediately taken up. The amendment of Senator Plumb to admit free duty on free being under consideration. After a long debate the amendment was withdrawn and Senator Reed moved to make the duty half a cent per pound adopted. Pending further consideration the Senate adjourned. In the House Mr. Weaver (Iowa) resumed his filibustering tactics, but Mr. Dibble (S. C.) succeeded in sandwiching two conference reports during the deadlock. They were for a public building at Omaha, Neb., which appropriates \$600,000. The deadlock continued until adjournment.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

A BRANCH of the Primrose League has been established at Hawarden, England, Mr. Gladstone's country home.

FRANK BLANC, senior member of the French Chamber of Deputies, recently delivered an effective speech, in which he urged that Boulanger be suppressed with the utmost severity of the law and appealed to the Republicans to unite against all kinds of dictators.

OSBOORNE, a resident of Pomona, Cal., claims to be the author of the "Marchioness" letter.

GENERAL LEW WALLACE has bought a lot in Brownsville, Tex., and will at once begin a residence. He declares emphatically that he would under no circumstances accept a Cabinet position.

THE House Committee on Appropriations has completed consideration of all the regular appropriation bills with the preparation of which it is charged except the General Deficiency bill. The result of its labors is a reduction of the appropriations carried by these bills from \$137,566,683 (the provision for the current year) to \$131,229,683. The bill is allotted for the same branches of the public service during the next fiscal year.

THE President has directed the removal of Lewis McMillin, appraiser in the New York Custom House, whose resignation was requested and refused.

INDIAN COMMISSIONER OGBURN's report to the Secretary of the Interior recognizes Byrd as Chief of the Chickasaws.

THE President gave a state dinner of forty-six covers to the members of the Cabinet on the 10th, the second of the winter's series of official entertainments. The Constitutional convention of New Hampshire has adopted an amendment to the Constitution prohibiting the manufacture and sale of all intoxicating liquors "except cider."

A LARGE party of Dakota Democrats arrived in Washington on the 10th to urge Congress to divide the Territory and admit South Dakota as a State. Chief Justice Bartlett Trip headed the delegation.

LEUTENANT-GOVERNOR ROBERTSON was again refused admittance to the Indiana Senate Chamber on the 11th.

THE funeral of Owen Brown, son of John Brown, of Ossawatimie, and last survivor of the Harper's Ferry affair, occurred at Pasadena, Cal., on the 10th.

THE Inter-State Commerce Commissioners issued their second annual report on the 11th. The law was defended, the Commissioners asserting that recent demoralization was due to other causes than any defect in the law.

PROF. BRICE, noted English author and member of Parliament, has gone to Afghanistan to study that country and its troops.

THE Republicans of the Illinois Legislature have decided to re-elect Senator Culom.

THE British Royal College of Surgeons, by vote of 21 to 2, has passed a resolution censuring Dr. Mackenzie for publishing his book on the case of the late Emperor Frederick.

THE engagement of the Princess Louise, sister of the Empress of Germany, to Prince Leopold of Prussia, is announced.

THE President has written a letter of regret to William A. Vincent, ex-Chief Justice of New Mexico, who was deprived of his office in November, 1885. To make amends the President tendered him a like office in Montana.

MISCELLANEOUS.

JUDGE BARRETT, of the New York Supreme Court, has decided that the North River Refining Company has forfeited its charter by joining the sugar trust.

THE President has commuted the death sentence of Lewis Burrow and William G. Porter, of Arkansas, sentenced to be hanged January 20. In Burrow's case the sentence was commuted to thirty years' imprisonment and in Porter's to imprisonment for life.

THE seventh annual convention of the International Plasterers' Union began at St. Paul, Minn., on the 9th.

VOUDONISM is reported increasing alarmingly in the interior of Haiti, due principally to the civil war. Near Jacmel a young girl was sacrificed and the frenzied crowd made a greedy fight for her half-cooked flesh.

KANSAS STATE NEWS.

THE retort and meter works of the Interstate Gas Company's works at Hutchinson burned the other evening. The fire was caused by the explosion of gas which had accumulated in one of the rooms from a leak. The estimated loss is \$10,000. THOMAS ANDERSON, a Lyon County farmer, was recently arrested on the charge of forging a note for \$15. The charge was preferred by one McCall, of Americus. Anderson was arrested in Colorado, where he was working in a quarry under the name of Murray.

THREE suits were recently filed in the district court at Leavenworth against the Kansas City, Wyandotte & Northwestern railroad for damages to property through which the road runs in entering the city. George Fisher asks judgment for \$7,500; Matthew Ryan for \$31,000, and Joseph Whitaker for \$15,000.

THE other day Thomas Kerr, a colored man, in walking a loaded shotgun from his work at Anderson's shoe factory, the whole charge passed through the lungs from the front. He lived only an hour.

THE other night the corn meal and feed mill of Russell Bowman & Co., at Lawrence, caught fire and burned to the ground. The origin of the fire was doubtless the work of an incendiary. The loss was about \$1,000, partially covered by insurance.

GOV. MORRIS has received a letter from Hon. S. J. Crawford, State agent at Washington, in which he states that he has an adjustment in the General Land Office of the Kansas five per cent. account, on sales of public lands for the year ending 1887, amounting to \$143,483.97, which sum has been certified to the treasury for settlement. The letter also states that should the Direct Tax Refunding bill become a law, which he believes will, Kansas will receive as her proportion \$1,743,333.

A SENSATIONAL shooting affray took place at Leavenworth the other night. Charles Rosenthal, a young Hebrew, went into a second-hand store kept by E. Bernstein, and commenced firing at a man named Hoffman. He fired four shots, one taking effect in Hoffman's leg. The cause of the act was jealousy over the two men over a young lady. She was in the store at the time of the shooting, and the shock so affected her that she went into hysterics, and a fatal result was feared.

A YOUNG man named George H. Hadley, who gave his name as Horace Hadley, was recently arrested at Atchison on the suspicion of being Tascott, the murderer of Snell, the Chicago millionaire. He was lodged in jail, and the charge of vagrancy placed against him.

JAMES STEWART, a prominent farmer, was shot and killed by George D. Beach, another farmer, in Shawnee County on the night of the 7th. A feud had existed between the two families, and a quarrel over a cow was the cause of the shooting and the shooting was the result.

A BOLD but unsuccessful attempt was made to rob the Bank of Armourdale the other afternoon. As J. F. Pocock, the teller, was standing at the counter making change for a customer, a man entered the bank, and while he was counting a pile of gold coins, a young man entered the room, and suddenly drawing a pistol leveled it at Mr. Pocock's head and ordered him to hand out the gold. The assistant cashier, who was at another counter, and when he heard the demand, he was quickly drawn a pistol from the drawer in his desk and covered the intruder, who was arrested and handed over to the police. He gave his name as Charles Locke, and his age at seventeen years.

AS a consequence of members of the Legislature held on the 9th, Hon. P. B. Blum was renominated for the United States Senate and C. C. Baker for State Printer.

WHILE coupling cars in the Missouri Pacific yards at Leavenworth the other day, a young man named George H. Hadley, who gave his name as Horace Hadley, was recently arrested at Atchison on the suspicion of being Tascott, the murderer of Snell, the Chicago millionaire. He was lodged in jail, and the charge of vagrancy placed against him.

THE suspension bridge destroyed by the disastrous storm of the 9th was the carriage bridge between Niagara Falls village and the Clifton House. It was built in 1870. Its original cost was \$40,000, and fully half as much more has been expended since in improvement. It was considered one of the strongest structures of its kind in the world.

WILLIAM R. FOSTER, the father of the William R. Foster, Jr., who recently robbed the New York Produce Exchange gratuity fund of \$98,000, and then decamped, has sent a check for \$50,000 for the benefit of the gratuity fund.

THE next convention of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association has been set for New York, February 13.

FIFTEEN business houses in Leland, Miss., were destroyed by fire recently.

By the explosion of a boiler in a mill at Pullman, Wis., the other day three men were killed.

BUSINESS failures (Dan's report) for the seven days ended January 10, numbered 381, compared with 357 the previous week, and 279 the corresponding week of last year.

THE "plan" agreed upon by Western railroad magnates at New York on the 10th, it was thought, would prevent rate cutting. Railroad men, in interviews, expressed a favorable opinion of it.

CONNECTED lists showed eight lives were lost in the destruction of the silk mill in the recent storm at Reading, Pa., and about ninety injured, some fatally.

At the point shop five lives were lost. About twenty deaths were the result of the storm at Reading, Pa., where the fatalities were far less at Reading and considerably greater at Pittsburgh than at Reading.

MR. OLIVE FAIRBANK has brought suit against Ann Arnot, Miss. The suit is for damages against President Cotterill and Nelson Sutherland, the officer who attacked her property at Milan, on account of the alleged electric sugar frauds.

ADDITIONAL DISPATCHES.

THE Senate on the 12th resumed debate on the tariff bill, finishing the consideration of the bill. The deadlock in the House ended by agreement with General Weaver by which the Oklahoma bill will receive some sort of consideration.

On the London Stock Exchange during the week ended January 12 there was a good demand for stocks for speculation. Not much confidence existed in the so-called agreement among American railroad presidents to prevent rate cutting. The Paris Bourse was quiet. The Panama Canal Company stock advanced to 60,000, 900 francs from the Banque Parissienne. The German bourses were firm.

CLEARING house returns for week ended January 12 showed an average increase of 24 compared with the corresponding week of last year. In New York the increase was 9.7.

THE proposition to enable the Government, through the Naval Observatory, to participate in the great international project of charting the sky by photographic processes has received strong support from a number of public officials.

MRS. JAY GOULD died at her residence on Fifth avenue, New York, on the night of the 13th. She was the daughter of Daniel S. Miller, a wholesale grocer of Brooklyn. Her mother is still living.

WALKER BLAINE broke his right leg the other evening while alighting from a cab at the Hotel Normandie, Washington.

THE applications for space in the United States department of the coming Paris Exposition number 750 from all parts of the country.

KNIGHT, Loomis & Co., publishers of Sunday school books, New York City, have made an assignment without preference.

THE President has declined to interfere to save Richard Smith from being hanged at Fort Smith, Ark., January 25, for murder in the Indian Territory.

GENERAL GREELY, of the Signal Service, expects an early spring.

NOVEMBER 21 an earthquake almost totally destroyed the town of Guanaco, United States of Colombia, but no loss of life occurred.

MESSRS. SMITH, Pratt & Herick, jobbers in boots and shoes, on Broadway, Albany, N. Y., were burned out the other night. Loss, \$150,000; insurance, \$80,000.

HENRY CHRIST and Mrs. Eva Herkimer were run over by the cars of the Long Island railroad near Hindsdale recently and killed.

FRANCIS KAPROTHINE in a lecture in Whitechapel recently advised Socialists to combine in order to acquire railways, factories, etc. By the adoption of such a course he said they would have a fair chance to succeed.

THE British ship *St. George*, from Liverpool, was wrecked on the coast of the island of Sissarga, twenty-five miles off Corunna, Portugal, the other night, and four men, the surgeon and four sailors were drowned.

CIVIL-SERVICE REFORM.

Why the Law Now in Force Can Not Be Considered a Failure.

Opposition to the Civil-Service Reform law is not a new thing in Congress, and it can hardly escape any one's attention that there is now apparently more and stronger opposition than at any time since the law was enacted. In the House debate the other day the act was denounced by at least one member who gave it a cordial support when it was passed in 1883. Democrats are not alone in this attitude. Republicans of prominence have declared the law a failure, and in both parties the feeling is undeniably much greater than the expression of it.

Under the circumstances this is not so unnatural, but it is wrong to charge the failure to the law. There has not been any such reform as was contemplated by the act, and which could have been secured by it. The difficulty has been in the failure to enforce the law in its spirit and purpose. Mr. Cleveland came into office with pledges on the subject which led all who trusted him to believe that he intended to go even farther than the law in the direction of reform. He had substantially pledged himself not to use the offices of the people as rewards for party service, and to keep the civil establishment free from offensive partisanship. On these promises he received support outside his own party, which made his election four years ago possible.

What has he done? It is not worth while to go over again what has become familiar ground to almost every one in the country. Nobody needs to be told that Mr. Cleveland has not kept his promises. The Civil-Service reformers themselves have been compelled to make the mournful confession that he has utterly disappointed them. He has kept a man of his own appointment on the commission who has throughout his whole term treated the law with contempt and aided to defeat its purpose. Mr. Cleveland has acted with this member and against the other commissioners in refusing to approve one of the most important rules proposed for advancing the reform—that requiring reasons for dismissal.

It may easily be charged that a reform law which enabled Mr. Cleveland to use the office-holding machinery as he has done is a failure, but it would not have been a failure had he been sincere in his pledges. It has been said for him that he could not enforce it against the adverse sentiment of a large proportion of his party. This will have small influence with those who have seen him fasten his tariff policy upon the party against the adverse sentiment of quite as large a proportion of it as ever objected to Civil-Service reform. He found power enough when he had any for it, but while he was dicker in Federal patronage as a means of driving his party into acceptance of his tariff policy and his renomination he was dealing reform its deadliest blow.

We do not believe the people regard the law as a failure merely because the administration of it has done so much to injure and discredit it. It is undeniably faulty in that it does not require reasons for removals; but that was something which could have been remedied in a day by the commission, and the President. As a matter of fact when two of the commissioners did propose a rule for this purpose Mr. Cleveland rejected it. If those who denounce the failure of Civil-Service reform will put the responsibility where it belongs the law will receive much less criticism and Mr. Cleveland much more.—Philadelphia Press.

THE PENSION QUESTION.

A Debt Honestly Due to the Brave Men Who Saved the Union.

A bill has been introduced into Congress and referred giving to every soldier of the war now living, and who has passed the age of fifty years, a pension of \$12 per month. The passage of this bill would be tardy justice, but it would still be justice. A very large proportion of the men now living in the Union are not rich. At the formative time of life, the period when men were selecting and entering into the active prosecution of employments which were to be their life work, they were called away by the urgent needs of the times. For four years they were engaged in the demoralizing employment of destructive warfare, and suffering from the exposure which such employment renders necessary. The close of the struggle found them without employment; many of them suffering from wounds and disease; and all more or less unfitted to enter into competition with those who had remained at home and prosecuted legitimate callings. They had been paid \$11 and \$13 per month, in a currency which had depreciated to an extent that at one time made their pay only a little more than \$4 in honest money. The promises made to them to induce enlistment were profuse and sweeping, and practically none of them have been carried out. As time wore on the singular injustice and ingratitude shown to them embittered their lives. Laws pretending to grant pensions were placed upon the statute books, but most of these acts paid a premium on perjury and offered a reward for rascality. Veterans were compelled to make affidavits for themselves or their comrades as to the existence of facts ten or twenty years before, which they might recall in a certain shadowy fashion, but could hardly be sure of, until finally every honest old soldier with feeling for the partners of his former toil adopted the rule, "give the comrades the benefit of the doubt," and was ready to swear recklessly so that simple justice might be done to one more of the old-time friends.

The plan adopted by Congress was simply monstrous. It had been contrived in the interest of carelessness and dishonesty the scheme could not have been better devised. But the better rule is embodied in the bill introduced at the present session. Give pensions to all—either graduated on length of service, or as the bill just

SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

Why the Law Now in Force Can Not Be Considered a Failure.

—A Scotch geologist claims to have discovered in Scotland evidences to prove that the earth lay for 150,000 years in a liquid state.

—Cases have been observed of restoration of the voice after a considerable destruction of vocal chords. It seems to show that they are mere duplicates of elastic membrane and not special structure.—*Foot's Health Monthly*.

—London *Truth* says that the art of the working goldsmith is disappearing, owing to the cheapness of diamonds. Every one who buys an ornament insists now upon precious stones, and estimates it rather by the value of the stones than by the beauty of the workmanship.

—When the rosewood tree is first cut, the fresh wood exhales a very strong, rose-like fragrance, which soon passes away, leaving no trace of the peculiar odor. There are several varieties of rosewood trees. The best, however, are those found in South America and the East Indies and neighboring islands.

—The new explosive now being manufactured in Germany is called secute. It is described as a granulated powder of a light yellow color, with an odor resembling that of bitter almonds. It is quickly manufactured, does not deteriorate and costs about the same as dynamite and is of nearly equal explosive power. It can not be fired by friction, blow or jar, only strong fuming-caps producing the explosion.

—A new life-boat, which is supplied with a reservoir of oil in order to support bodies in the water, is based on the recent cases of successful experiences with oil in overcoming the power of the waves. The reservoir in this case is provided with an outlet, by means of which the oil may escape automatically, no matter on which side the float, or buoy, may be turned when thrown into the water.

—A microscopic examination of a great number of specimens of ancient paper, dating back to the eighth century, has shown them to have been made, as now, from rags, and not from new fiber. The most common constructed is linen; but cotton, hemp, and animal fibers have also been detected. Furthermore, it is discovered that many of the samples are "clayed" with starch paste.

—Iron, when heated, bends very readily under weight, so that it can not be considered the best material for freeproof buildings. Stone, and especially granite, is very little better than iron to withstand the ravages of fire. There is no material, according to the best fire insurance authorities, that can be used for construction equal to brick. It is the opinion of both insurance men and heads of fire departments that brick has stood the test better than any other material.

—One of the troublesome questions which architects have never been able to settle is the placing of permanent foundations under large buildings. The latest experiment, according to the *American Architect*, is to cover

—before commencing the footings—the entire area of the excavation of the building with a thick stratum of concrete, laid directly upon the top of the clay hard-pan. The depth of this course is nearly two feet, and its object is to strengthen the clay that the settlement may be reduced to a minimum.

—A recent analysis of the potato shows that the starch in the tuber is chiefly formed at a comparatively late period of its growth. In an early stage the experimenter found of ash 10.8 and of starch 16.4. The same variety yielded when near maturity but .70 of ash and 24.4 starch, showing that the proportionate increase of starch toward the end of the growing season was very great. There is much less water in a potato tuber toward the end of its growth than in the earlier stages. It is from these facts that "new" potatoes are more watery than those that are ripe.

PECULIAR CUSTOMS.

How Competitive Examinations Are Conducted in China.

At Foochow the candidates underwent much suffering, and even death. One man went mad directly he saw the themes, and cut himself nearly to pieces with broken bits of pottery; a second also lost his senses and began to eat mud. On the second day a candidate spit blood from over-exertion, and died. Each student was in a separate cell, which was hurriedly run up, without any proper raised place for the men to sleep, so that many rolled off on the damp ground and injured themselves, while one was stung to death by a poisonous snake. Thousands of students went up for the examination, but hundreds were plucked in the preliminary before the literary chancellor, who was exceptionally severe this year. The present examination rules have been in force for over a century, and are most strictly observed, no district being allowed more than a certain number of degrees. If any district offends, this number is reduced as a punishment; while next year additional numbers will be allowed in honor of the emperor's marriage.

At each examination there are two chief and two subordinate examiners, with a corps of eighteen readers, who go through all the essays, and submit the best only to their superiors. Copyists then transcribe these essays in red. The examiners are shut up for five weeks. Hard-headed students, who can not get through after many efforts, are accorded an honorary degree when they reach a venerable age—i. e., over ninety.—*North China Herald*.

A Debtor's Clear Logic.

"Could you manage to pay me what you owe me?" asked one traveling man of another.

"Yes, I might, but you may as well wait for it."

"I like your coolness."

"My dear fellow, you are really better off as it is. You don't doubt that I am going to pay you this money, do you?"

"Not the slightest."

"And if I were to give it to you now, I would only borrow it again."

"That's more than likely."

"And the next time I borrowed it I might not pay you at all. So you see, you are safer as it is."—*Merchant Traveler*.

Where Republicanism Grows.

In 1884 the States of the North and the border States of Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia gave Blaine a plurality of 302,139 of the popular vote.

On November 6 these same States gave Harrison a plurality of 377,441, a gain of 77,302 votes in that section, in which alone a reasonably free vote and fair count can be relied upon, and a majority of nearly 100,000 over all.

Besides this, during the past four years the Republican party has suffered a loss of 60,000 votes in these States by emigration to the Territories, where they are not yet counted, but soon will be.

The States of the North and the border States, with more of the former soon to be admitted in the Northwest, contain the elements and moral, that are bound to rule this country. It is gratifying, therefore, to see in that section, if it must be so called, a marked growth of Republican strength.—*Cleveland Leader*.